UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT WESTERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS SAN ANTONIO DIVISION

ALEEYA PEREDIA, INDIVIDUALLY
AND ON BEHALF OF OTHER
SIMILARLY SITUATED,

Plaintiff,

CASE NO. 5:23-cv-1327-XR

v.
TANYA BENAVIDES, EFREN ANTONIO
MORENO II, AND BLUSH BRUNCH,
LLC,

Defendants.

AGREED SCHEDULING RECOMMENDATIONS

Plaintiff Aleeya Pereida ("Plaintiff") and Defendants Tanya Benavides, Efren Antonio Moreno II, and Blush Brunch, LLC ("Defendants"), (Plaintiff and Defendants are collectively referred to herein as the "Parties") recommend that the following deadlines be entered in the scheduling order to control the course of this case:

Plaintiff filed this case as a collective action under the Fair Labor Standards Act ("FLSA"). Defendants intend to oppose Plaintiff's request that notice issue in this case. As such, the Parties jointly recommend that the following deadlines be entered in a preliminary scheduling order, which shall control discovery concerning whether it is appropriate for notice to issue in this matter, with the Court's standard scheduling order to be entered once issues regarding notice have been determined.

These recommendations are made in light of the Fifth Circuit's decision in *Swales v. KLLM Transp. Servs, L.L.C.*, which held that, when managing a putative FLSA collective action, "a district court should identify, at the outset of the case, what facts and legal considerations will be material to determining whether a group of 'employees' is 'similarly situated' . . . [a]nd then it

should authorize preliminary discovery accordingly." 895 F.3d 430, 441 (5th Cir. 2021).

The Parties believe that future scheduling deadlines will be determined in large part by prenotice discovery, as well as briefing concerning the appropriateness of granting Plaintiff's Motion for Notice. Accordingly, the Parties believe that the most efficient manner to proceed would be to attend to class issues initially (Phase I discovery) and then to submit additional scheduling recommendations once class issues have been resolved (Phase II).

In that regard, the Parties propose that Phase I discovery, limited to the appropriateness of notice issuing in this matter, last 90 days from the date of the Court's entry of the corresponding scheduling order.

The Parties further propose that Plaintiff's Motion for Notice be filed within 120 days from the date of the Court's entry of the corresponding scheduling order, with Defendants' Response due 21 days after the date of Plaintiff's Motion for Notice, and Plaintiff's Reply due 7 days after the date of Defendants' Response.

Therefore, the Parties respectfully request that the Court require that the Parties submit additional joint proposed scheduling recommendations, including deadlines for the items in the Court's form scheduling order, not later than 15 days after either (1) the close of the class notice period, if any, or (2) the date the Court denies Plaintiff's Motion for Notice.

Respectfully Submitted,

/s/Josef Buenker

Josef F. Buenker State Bar No. 03316860 jbuenker@buenkerlaw.com **The Buenker Law Firm** P.O. Box 10099 Houston, Texas 77206 Phone: (713) 868-3388

Facsimile: (713) 683-9940

Douglas B. Welmaker State Bar No. 00788641 doug@welmakerlaw.com Welmaker Law, PLLC 409 N. Fredonia, Suite 118 Longview, Texas 75601 Phone: (512) 799-2048

ATTORNEY FOR PLAINTIFF

/s/ Lisa Alcantar

Lisa P. Alcantar State Bar No. 24069284 lalcantar@maynardnexsen.com MAYNARD NEXSEN, P.C. 7373 N. Broadway St., Suite 403, Office 1 San Antonio, Texas 78209 Telephone: (512) 989-6558

ATTORNEY FOR DEFENDANTS